

NEW YORK
HERALD TRIBUNE

STAT

Nicholas A. de Transehe Dies, Explored the Arctic

Nicholas Alexander de Transehe, seventy-four, Arctic explorer and former commander in the Imperial Russian Navy, died Tuesday at Overlook Hospital, Summit, N. J. He maintained homes at 32 E. 58th St. here and in Dresden, Me.

Mr. de Transehe, who once served in the Central Intelligence Agency as an expert on Russian affairs, had lived in the United States since 1923. He was a pioneer in the development of naval equipment and radio communication. He was with the American Geographical Society from 1923 to 1928 and established a special branch on Arctic exploration. During this time he and Bernt Balchen, the flyer-explorer, charted the course for Adm. Richard E. Byrd's first trans-polar flight.

Although he was an intrepid explorer who also carried a name for himself in scientific circles, Mr. de Transehe was a retiring individual, so modest he did not even let himself be listed in "Who's Who." As one associate put it, "He preferred

to hide his light under a bushel."

Mr. de Transehe was vice-president and chief engineer of the De Bothezat Impeller Co. of New York, now a division of the American Machine and Metals Co. While with this firm he invented and developed coaxial and bifurcator fans used for ventilation aboard ships and for the transportation of corrosive gases in the chemical industry.

During World War II Mr. de Transehe was with the Army Transport Service in Brooklyn and was in charge of converting peace-time ships to war-time duty. After the war he joined the C. I. A. in Washington, going abroad on a number of missions. Upon his retirement in 1956 he was awarded the Legion of Merit.

In Russo-Japanese War

Born in Vladivostok to a titled family, Mr. de Transehe attended the Russian Naval Academy and saw service in the Russo-Japanese War. He persuaded Czar Nicholas II to acquire the first successful submarine from the American, Simon Lake, and served as its executive officer. In 1910 he was awarded a medal for rescuing a crew member who had fallen overboard. He won two decorations in World War I.

He commanded the icebreaker Tamir from 1911 to 1915, discovering Nicholas II Land and several other islands, one of which was named for him. Later he commanded a cruiser in the Baltic fleet until the Bolsheviks took over. He was the author of a number of articles on the Arctic for the Encyclopedia Britannica, and developed self-stabilizing impeller-driven torpedoes and dual counter-torque propellers for helicopters.

Surviving are a daughter, Mrs. Charles R. Skinner jr., and two granddaughters.



Nicholas Alexander de Transehe.